



For Immediate Release
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Works Council Announces \$4.3 Million in Grant Funding for Local CTE Innovations

(Indianapolis) The Indiana Works Council and the Center for Education and Career Innovation (CECI) announce the availability of \$4.3 million in grant funding for Innovative Career and Technical Education (CTE) Curricula. The grants are designed to encourage innovative and collaborative career and technical training opportunities for Hoosier students, working in conjunction with the eleven regional Works Councils around the state.

The Indiana Works Councils bring together more than 160 educational, workforce, and business and industry leaders to evaluate local landscapes for educational programming, business needs, and potential skills gaps between the two. Created by the 2013 General Assembly at the request of Governor Mike Pence, the Works Councils further Governor Pence's ideals of technical training options which encourage all students to achieve with a personal "Plan A" providing opportunity for success whether they want to go to college, learn a trade, or start their career right out of high school.

"The Works Councils are eager to implement innovative ideas and creative partnerships that will elevate CTE curricula," said Marie Mackintosh, director of the Indiana Works Councils. "By connecting private industry with educational partners through these grants, we have an opportunity to invigorate not only our students' learning experiences but also the business community at large with more highly skilled and engaged employees."

The goal of these grants are to foster and scale the most innovative and effective CTE curriculum models. These models require a 3:1 ratio of grant funding to private investment match, meaning that the grantee will receive \$3 in grant funding for each \$1 of private investment match. Grant proposals must be developed in conjunction with an Indiana Regional Works Council, who will approve applications for submission to the state.

Grant applications are available at <http://www.in.gov/irwc/2362.htm> and will be dispersed across two separate grant cycles. Deadlines to submit grant proposals for Cycle 1 and Cycle 2 are April 30, 2014 and January 2, 2015 respectively. The grant funds, provided by the Indiana General Assembly, are a match to private investments for the Innovative Career and Technical Education (CTE) Curriculum grant (as authorized under IC 20-19-6-7).

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Background:

Maps of the 11 regional districts, as well as membership rosters for the works councils are available <http://www.in.gov/irwc/2335.htm>.

The mission of the CECI is to advance the learning outcomes for Hoosier students and adult workers by: (1) aligning statewide efforts to connect the education and workforce training pipeline with the needs of Indiana's employers, and (2) supporting the expansion of innovative and highly effective education and career development initiatives. CECI provides staff support to the Indiana Works Council, the Indiana Career Council, the Education Roundtable, and the State Board of Education.

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